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*Report from Cadiz.*CADIZ, SPAIN, *January 1, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit my regular report for the week ended December 31, 1899.

Cadiz.—Since my arrival up to the present time, I have not as yet succeeded in obtaining mortality statistics or information later than for the month of October concerning the health conditions of the port. Smallpox, which is endemic here, that is, is always to be found in the city in a greater or less number of cases, is known to exist at present, but not in an epidemic form. I hope soon to be able to perfect arrangements whereby a weekly report of the contagious diseases may be obtained.

The temperature has averaged low for the past two weeks—lower than is usual for Cadiz at this season of the year. The amount of moisture in the atmosphere is great. Changes in temperature are frequent and sudden. As a consequence, acute affections of the throat and lungs are plentiful.

As reported, the Spanish trans-Atlantic steamship *Cataluna* sailed Saturday, the 30th instant, for the Canaries, Porto Rico, Havana, and Vera Cruz. It carried out, all told, for the ports under our jurisdiction 79 steerage passengers from the following-named ports: Barcelona, 46; Malaga, 5; Cadiz, 28. In addition to these, there were also a number bound for the Canaries and Vera Cruz. The bulk of those taking passage at Cadiz came from Madrid and the country towns southward. They presented a good appearance, being neat and clean in person and dress. They carried very little baggage. It was not found necessary to disinfect any of it. A small number of the passengers were inspected on shore in a shed belonging to the steamship company, but owing to the absence of a portion of them, although an hour had been appointed for this work, it was found necessary to finish it on board. Hereafter all emigrants will be examined and have their baggage examined and labeled on shore. The inspection of the steerage passengers, vessel, and crew was conducted without friction or any apparent disapproval on the part of the steamship people, but as the procedure was an innovation in Cadiz, the work was much delayed by the unfamiliarity with the routine and what was expected of them.

The steerage compartments were in bad shape, sanitarily, as, also, in point of sleeping arrangements, and were overcrowded. But as a portion of the occupants were destined for the Canaries and Vera Cruz, it was deemed unadvisable at that time to withhold the bill of health. The company's attention will be called to the requirements in this connection without delay. This mingling of the steerage passengers, a portion being destined for our ports, while the remainder are for ports outside of our jurisdiction, will of necessity complicate the work here and make it less efficient than if all were bound to our country.

As smallpox is more or less prevalent throughout southern Spain, I advised the ship's surgeon to vaccinate all steerage passengers not immunized by previous vaccination, or attack of smallpox, as soon as the vessel cleared port.

Oporto.—Two new cases of plague with two deaths are reported for the week ended the 31st ultimo. It is stated that in view of the considerable diminution of the epidemic, it has been decided to reduce the corps of physicians and the sanitary service organized for handling the plague, and to declare the quarantine raised from Oporto, from January

1, and to resume the train service between Oporto and Salamanca in Spain, which was discontinued at the breaking out of the epidemic.

Lisbon.—One case of plague was reported in Lisbon last week. It occurred in the person of a soldier who had been employed in unloading and loading cargo in a ship at Oporto, and having recently returned to Lisbon, where he rejoined his company, and was taken ill. It is stated that stringent measures were taken, the barrack in which the case appeared was disinfected, and all the soldiers of the company placed in isolation. At last report the case was doing well. The reports reaching us of the plague conditions in Oporto are somewhat vague and indefinite, and are obtained chiefly from the Madrid and local papers. The opinion is that there is more plague in Oporto than is being reported. I am inclined to believe such is the case.

Masan.—Nothing further since my last report has been heard relative to the plague situation there.

The weekly abstract of bills of health for the week ended the 30th ultimo is herewith inclosed.

Respectfully,

J. A. NYDEGGER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Report from Corunna.

CORUNNA, December 30, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to submit report for the week ended Saturday, December 30, 1899.

The following vessel has been inspected and cleared during the week: December 27, steamship *Santanderino*, Egurrola master; crew, 36; 18 steerage passengers from Santander; for Havana, via Vigo.

There were inspected and passed at this port 85 steerage passengers with baggage.

Cases of smallpox reported during the week, 2; no deaths.

Mild temperature. Excessive rain.

Respectfully,

JULIO HARMONY,
United States Consul.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

TURKEY.

Drought in the Hedjaz.

[Report No. 236.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, January 3, 1900.

The British consul at Djiddah, according to what the British sanitary commissioner has communicated to the superior sanitary commission, reports that for three years past there has been very little rain, and, as a consequence, the cisterns, wells, and all water deposits are already almost dry. The same condition prevails at Yambo where last year people were obliged to flee in order to avoid the consequences of the want of water. Said British consul considers the situation as a dangerous one on account of the pilgrimage already begun.

The superior sanitary commission has decided to apply to the Ottoman Government and supply both the cities named with water from Suez by sending there a large water-supplying ship, and by ordering that every steamboat going from the latter Egyptian town to Djiddah or